

Our mission is to faithfully witness of Jesus Christ so that:

- *Our relationship with God can be nurtured,*
- *Our discipleship can be strengthened,*
- *The dignity and worth of persons can be valued,*
- *The recognition and contribution of others is accepted,*
- *We become aware of and respond to the needs of the community, and*
- *We will respect and care for God's earth.*



Communicator

A monthly newsletter of



Community of Christ



Fort Collins, Colorado

A Welcoming Congregation

For everyone born, a place at the table

January 2020

*"With Unconditional Love,
Welcome to the New Year!"*

—Humbly, Pastor Kurt Remmenga

*We proclaim Jesus Christ and promote
communities of joy, hope, love, and peace!*

Twenty Twenty... This sounds strange... 2020...
But, in a few days or weeks, it will sound
perfectly normal!

We enter a new year, filling the nervous
excitement of the unknown, good and bad;
knowing that we will be presented with a
myriad of challenges.



— HAPPY NEW YEAR —

I am watching Logan, our 23-month-old grandson, run, dance, jump, climb, roll, and explore everything with the wide-eyed joy of new experiences...and, I am fascinated and distracted from this task!

Viewing what I take for granted, Logan is interested in everything! He is relatively inexperienced, unbiased, doesn't have any more luggage than his diaper, and is shorter than I am. As I watch him, I see that the stairs, the couch, the table, all hold an attraction for him. When I share Logan's space, I get an appreciation for this attraction; from his vantage point, he cannot see what is up there! There is mystery! While sharing his space, even being able to anticipate what is "up there" with my experience and baggage, there is still mystery up there.

January 2020 Communicator

It is all a matter of perspective!

By modifying my viewpoint, my attitude, I see things from a different perspective.

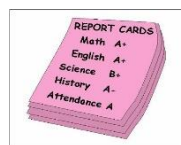
I know that we have very little control of many things, but am reminded, while sharing space with Logan, that we do have control of how we view things—we can modify our perspective.

With a new perspective, we can face each challenge as an opportunity to succeed!

Modifying one's perspective does not keep good or bad situations from happening, but a new or different perspective may provide us with opportunities that we had not seen before.

Society tends to focus on the negative, the failures in life. News headlines rarely report a success.

A report card comes home with six "A's" and one "C." Most of us will focus on the single "C," rather than celebrate the "A's" or even explore the reasons behind the grades. We jump immediately to the conclusion that the "C" is a failure and overlook the "A's."



Often times, those things in life that society views as failures, when viewed from a different perspective, are in fact successes!

Several years ago, a father noted that his son, who is autistic, would fixate on a single task and follow a pattern over and over, to the point of driving everyone around him bonkers. The father was employed in the software world and

recognized that this fixation is exactly what it takes to test software. Complete focus, attention to detail, step-by-step, and strict adherence to a set of rules. The recognition of these skills helped employ the son and generated the creation of a company named Specilisterne, which hires autistic people with these specific skills, or as much of society calls disabilities, to troubleshoot software coding.

I have no data to back this up, but I am willing to bet that for every failure, there are many, many more successes. For every earthquake there are acres of unshaken ground, for every flood there are miles and miles of water moving easily within their banks, for every negative political move there are countless positive moves, and for every bad event there are numerous good events.

What would our world be like if the headlines extolled the positive occurrences and placed the negative items on page five in the teeny tiny print?

We may not be in a position to make these kinds of sweeping changes in society, but we are in a position to do this in our lives; we are called to do this. “Proclaim Jesus Christ and promote communities of joy, hope, love, and peace.”

Our calling is to change our perspective, not only in how we view our world, but also in how we respond to our world.

To proclaim Jesus Christ is to act and respond in ways that promote joy, hope, love, and peace.

We may not be able to change the world, but we can change ourselves. We may not be able to influence the world, but we can influence those with whom we come into contact.

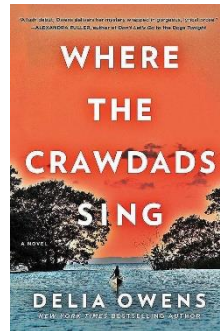
We can proclaim Jesus Christ and communities of joy, hope, love, and peace!

We can change my perspective!

We never, ever have to try to do any of this on my own. We are always in the company of, and supported by, Jesus Christ.

Here’s to 2020 and a new perspective!

“Here I am Lord, send me.”



A Novel Bunch

January Meeting

Date: January 16

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Host: Marilyn Garner

Book: *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

January Calendar



Check the website:

<http://cofchristrm.org/FortCollins/>

- Jan. 1: New Years Day
- Jan. 5: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship
Communion Sunday
First-Sunday Giving
- Jan. 8: 5:30 p.m. Worship Coordinators
6:00 p.m. Leadership Council
- Jan. 9: Take-Away Lunch volunteers at
Murphy Center, 10:00–noon
- Jan. 12: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship
Second-Sunday Offering
Youth and Children’s Classes
5:00 p.m. **Second-Sunday Social—**
- Jan. 16: 2:00 p.m. A Novel Bunch meets
- Jan. 19: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship
Communicator items due.
- Jan. 25: 8:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Homeless
Breakfast
- Jan. 26: 9:30 a.m. Adult Class
10:30 a.m. Worship
Youth and Children’s Classes

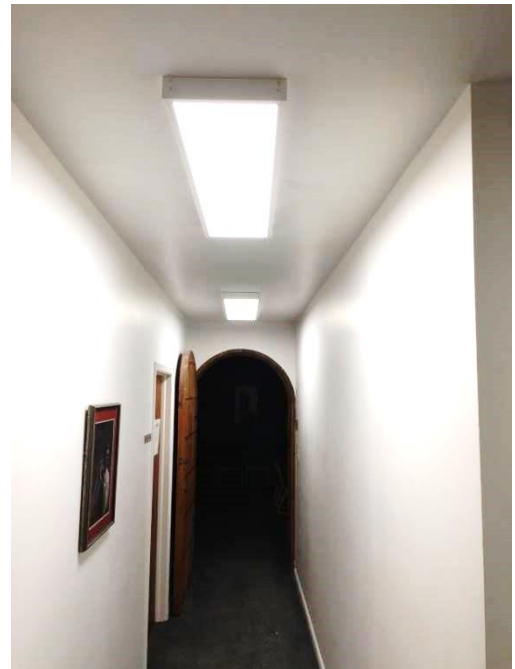
Second-Sunday Social for January

Sunday, January 12, GAME NIGHT. Please bring a snack to share. Start time is 4:30 p.m. Drinks will be provided. There will be prizes.



From Your Facilities Management Team

Educational Wing Entrance and Hallway Lighting Project: The interior “220 Entrance” and the Educational Wing hallway now have new LED flat panel lighting fixtures installed.



Exterior Building Lighting Project: Due to an equipment delay, the big LED parking lot flood lights are now scheduled to be installed on January 6, 2020.

Financial Income & Expense Report

Beginning in 2020, financial income and expense report summaries will be published in the *Communicator* during the months of February (Financial Period: October 2019–December 2019), May (Financial Period: January 2020–March 2020), August (Financial Period: April 2020–June 2020) and November (Financial Period: July 2020–Sep 2020). If you have any questions, please contact Gary or Ruth Chatburn, Fort Collins Co-Financial Officers.

Food Bank and Murphy Center Donations

It has been our practice for a number of years to receive food donations for the Food Bank and for the Murphy Center Lunch-Bag program. Generally, the Food Bank Donations are part of our First-Sunday Giving, and the Murphy Center donations are received at any time. Please remember these opportunities to share generously for the good of our community.

Large-Print Hymns

This is a reminder that we have light-weight, large-print binders of the hymns for the current Sunday. They are available at the usher's stand in the foyer every Sunday.

January Birthdays



Glenn Smith	01/04
Lillian Wallace	01/08
Anthony Riley	01/09
Greyson Garner	01/11
Stephanie Gustave	01/15
Gavin (Crawford)	01/18
David Garner	01/18
Nancy Mendenhall	01/19
Sharon Fulton	01/19
Paul Urioste	01/25
Bob Fulton	01/29
Jessica Julch	01/29
Dahlia Bridwell	01/30



Speakers, Planners, Keyboard, Greeters, and Nursery

Speakers

- ❖ Jan. 5:
- ❖ Jan. 12:
- ❖ Jan. 19:
- ❖ Jan. 26: Deb Friesz

Planners

- ❖ Jan. 5: Debbie Jones
- ❖ Jan. 12: Danise Remmenga
- ❖ Jan. 19: Bettie Miller
- ❖ Jan. 26: Deb Friesz

Keyboard

- ❖ Jan. 5: Tom Beck
- ❖ Jan. 12: Kay Bunch
- ❖ Jan. 19: Stephanie Gustave

- ❖ Jan. 26: Sharon Troyer

Greeters

- ❖ January: Nancy and Logan Miller

Nursery

- ❖ Jan. 5: Marilyn Garner
- ❖ Jan. 12: Gary Chatburn
- ❖ Jan. 19: Marta Remmenga
- ❖ Jan. 26: Sharon Fulton

Seasonal Overflow Shelter

Our seasonal overflow shelter is now operating from November 1 through April 30. It is again operated by Catholic Charities and utilizes our Activity Center. It will serve only women again this year. It will operate seven days a week depending on need.

Leadership Council Summary

Stewardship/Facilities Management Team

- Project summary update: Outside, lighting is done except for the big parking lot light that needs some parts. Inside, some wiring needs to be redone in replacing the educational wing lights. They will be panels for better coverage.
- A new fiberglass door will replace the one off the rostrum on the east side of the church.
- Sanctuary doors will hopefully be replaced in January.
- We need to install fencing around the new AC units. It will be seven feet tall and see-through.
- We now have two volunteers to help plan the landscaping for the spring.
- We are working on fixing the sign out front on the corner, which is currently not working.

Holiday Dinner Photos!

